

# **The American Dream is Alive at LIT**

A Presentation Given To:

**The Rotary Club of Beaumont**

Dr. Lonnie L. Howard

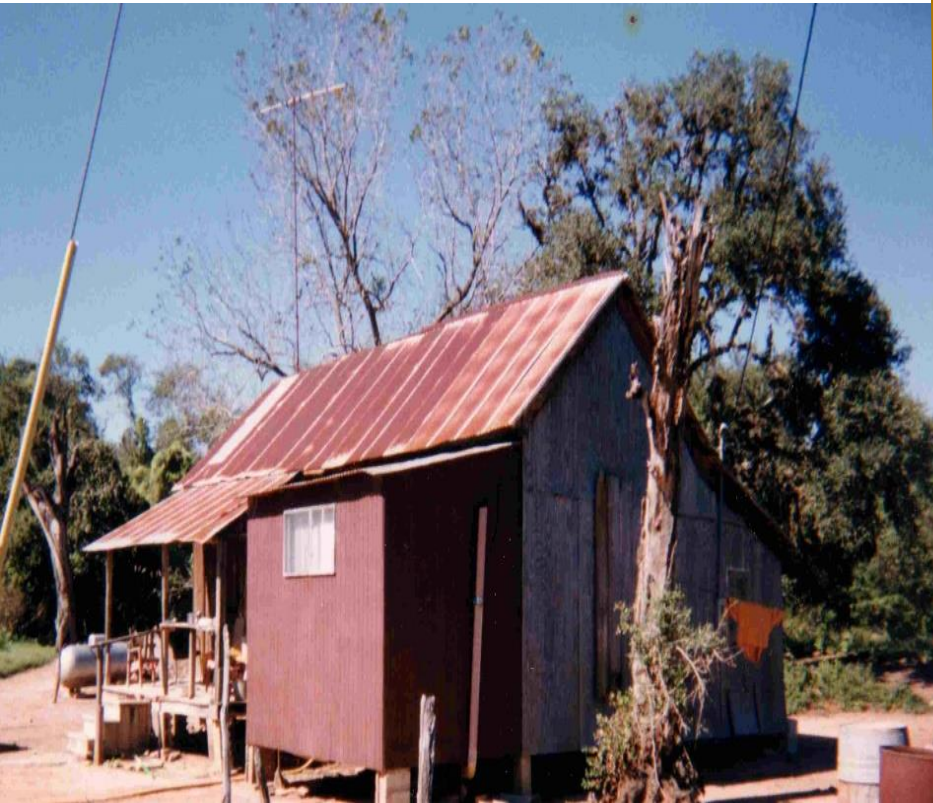
June 21, 2017



# The American Dream

## Then:

Born in a 4-Rm Shack.  
Worked as a Janitor.  
Ate ½ Can Sweet Peas.



## Now:

No AAS Degree Until Age 36.  
Adopted a Son (PhD program).  
2x a College President.



## Degrees & Training



Harvard



Penn St.



UT-Austin



UH



HCC



San Jac.

# The American Dream

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## Our Faculty & Staff (Overcame Challenges):

- **Total Employees.** 254 Diverse Faculty/Staff.
- **Educational Attainment:** Many Faculty/Staff are 1st Generation Students Themselves.
- **Gender.** 145 Female and 109 Male.
- **Ethnicity:** 23.6% of Faculty are Minorities.



# The American Dream

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## How Students Come to Us:

- **Total LIT Students.** 6,946 (2015).
- **Aren't Academically Prepared.** 65% Deficient in either Math, Reading, or Writing.
- **Can't Pay for College.** 64% receive Financial Aid.
- **Many are Minorities.** 49% are Students of Color and (33.5% of those are) African Americans.



# The American Dream

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## How Students Leave Us:

- **\$\$\$ Great Salaries.** LIT is #1 (TX)/#3 (US) for the highest student salaries.
- Can Earn up to **\$80,000** for AAS in Process Technology.
- **Employment Ready.** LIT Guarantee states Students will be job-ready or can get retrained for free.
- **Help Grow the Economy.** LIT has a \$165.3M Economic Impact in Southeast Texas.



# The American Dream

Enrollment Down/Skilled Jobs Unfilled/Social Issues

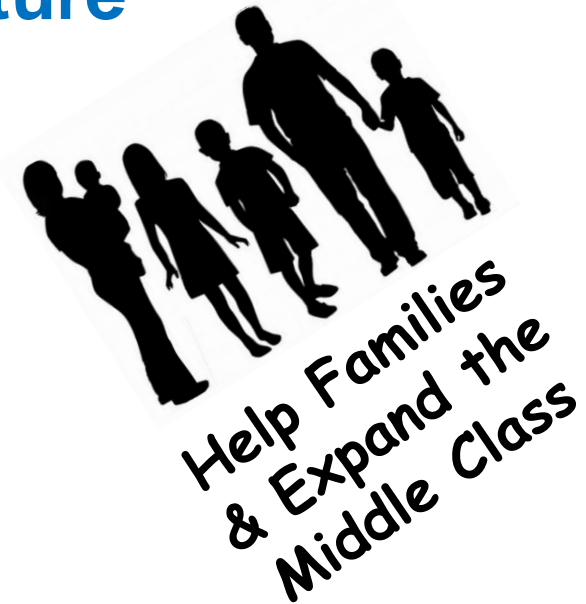


# The American Dream

## My "Vision" for LIT's Future



Not Everyone Needs



March 21, 2017. Dr. Howard welding final ceremonial bead of the new building



# Questions

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# Answers

*Thank You!*

